

Abstract

A method and system for pre-authenticating a pre-establishing key management on a roaming device prior to reassociation to facilitate fast hand-off in a wireless network is described. For enhanced mobility, both authentication and key establishment is performed prior to reassociation of the roaming device between access points. When the roaming device enters in contact with one of the access points, a local authentication is performed between the access point and the roaming device prior to reassociation with the access point to allow for fast hand-offs of the device between access points within the network.